

Amendments to the Drawings:

The drawing sheets attached in connection with the above-identified application containing Figures 1 and 2 are being presented as new formal drawing sheets to be substituted for the previously submitted drawing sheets. The drawing Figures 1 and 2 have been amended. Appended to this amendment is an annotated copy of the previous drawing sheets which have been marked to show changes presented in the replacement sheet of the drawing.

The specific changes which have been made to Figures 1 and 2 are to label these Figures as "PRIOR ART".

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

Claims 1 and 4 have been amended. Claim 5 has been added. No new matter has been added. Claims 1-5 are pending.

Drawings

The drawings were objected to. Specifically, the Office Action indicated that Figures 1 and 2 should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art--. Figures 1 and 2 have been amended to label them as "PRIOR ART". Accordingly, applicants submit that the objection has been overcome.

Abstract

The abstract was objected to for particular language therein. The abstract has been amended to address the issues raised in the Office Action, and applicants submit that the objection to the abstract has been overcome.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph

Claims 1-4 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. The claims have been amended to address the issues raised in the Office Action, and applicants submit that the rejection has been overcome.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-4 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,463,371 to Fuller ("Fuller"). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections for at least the following reasons.

Independent claim 1 is directed to an alarm device comprising: a mounting surface in a first plane, and a sensor. In claim 1, a second plane which faces and is parallel to the first plane is disposed in a predetermined position, and a plane perpendicular to a detection direction of the sensor is disposed at an angle of less than 90° with respect to the second

plane. Fuller does not suggest the recited relationship between the plane of the mounting surface of the alarm device of claim 1 and the plane perpendicular to the detection direction, nor is the relationship obvious in view of the advantages of this relationship.

Fuller discloses a window mounted automobile alarm. The portable alarm apparatus 10 is mounted over an edge of an automobile window 12. The alarm apparatus includes a sound sensor (col. 3, lines 55-58), and a tamper sensor 40 (col. 3, lines 66-67).

Fuller, however, fails to disclose any relationship between a detection direction of either its sound sensor or its tamper sensor relative to the plane of the mounting surface of its alarm apparatus 10. Thus, Fuller does not suggest all the features of claim 1.

Moreover, the recited relationship between the plane of the mounting surface of the alarm device of claim 1 and the plane perpendicular to the detection direction is not obvious in view of the advantages of this relationship. As disclosed in the present specification, the angular arrangement allows for a wider detection range (See page 20, first full paragraph), and is less susceptible to problems with a receipt covering the sensor (See page 20, last paragraph). Fuller by contrast, says nothing about the relationship between the mounting surface and the detection direction, and thus does not realize the advantages of the relationship recited in claim 1. Claim 1 is not obvious over Fuller for at least this reason.

The dependent claims are patentable for at least the same reasons as their respective independent claims, as well as for further patentable features recited therein. For example, claim 3 further defines the angular relationship reciting “wherein said angle ranges from 60° to 80°”, a feature not suggested by Fuller. Claim 4 recites “wherein said angle is determined by subtracting from 90° an approximately mean value of a minimum angle and a maximum angle at which a sun visor disposed in an inside of a vehicle is set relative to a horizontal surface of a ceiling of said vehicle.” By contrast, the Fuller alarm is for mounting to a window, not a sun visor.

Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

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FIG. 1

PRIOR ART

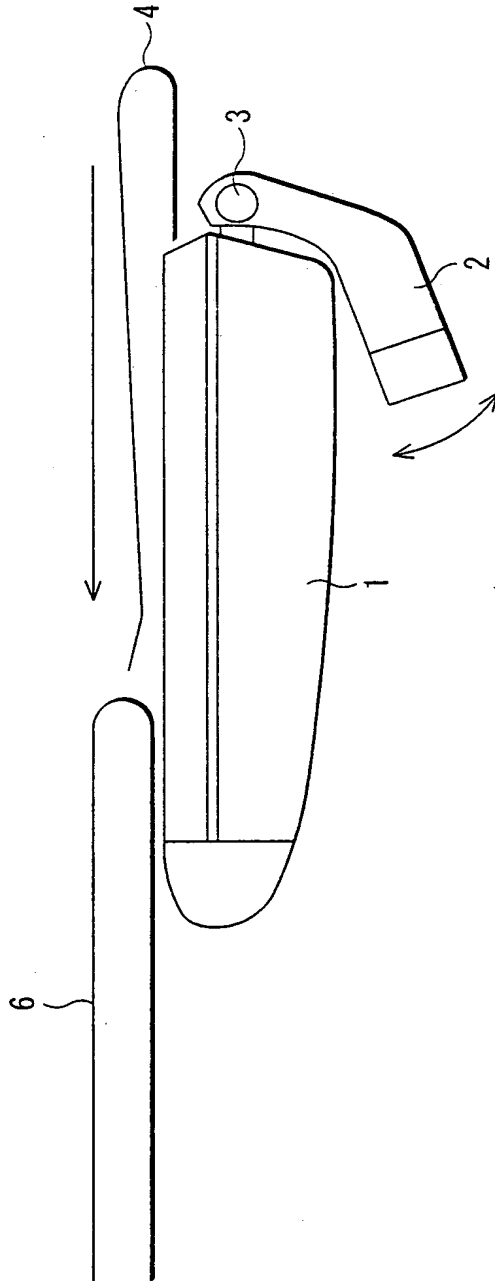


FIG. 2

PRIOR ART

